

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-10 and 12-19 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claim 11 as follows.

Claims 1-10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An image display apparatus ~~according to claim 9, comprising:~~

a first substrate provided with a plurality of electron emitting elements in a vacuum container;

a second substrate positioned opposite to said first substrate in said vacuum container, said second substrate being irradiated with electrons emitted from said electron emitting elements;

at least one spacer disposed on either one of said first and second substrates to provide an atmospheric pressure resistant structure of said vacuum container, said spacer being interposed between said first and second substrates and having a longitudinal direction in a direction substantially perpendicular to an opposing direction of said first and second substrates; and

a lateral wall positioned inside an external periphery of at least either one of said first and second substrates to provide a sealed structure of said vacuum container,

wherein a first support member for supporting said spacer is provided outside an image display area which is formed between an area of said electron emitting elements of said first substrate and an electron-irradiated area of said second substrate, while a second support member is provided outside said image display area of either one of said first and second substrates, and wherein said first support member and said second support member are joined together,

wherein said first and second support members consist of members having conductivity, and

wherein an electrode formed on either one of said first and second substrates, bearing said second support member, is electrically joined to said second support member by [[a]] contact of a contact portion having spring characteristics, provided on said second support member.

Claims 12-19. (Cancelled).